

SOUTH BEND

FEBRUARY 2006

Building a 21st Century City
MAYOR STEPHEN J. LUECKE

Letter from the Mayor

Dear friends,

I am pleased and proud to report that the Morris Performing Arts Center, for the 5th consecutive year, has been ranked in the top half of the Top 100 Theatre Venues Worldwide according to Pollstar, a nationally recognized entertainment industry publication! The Morris shares this wonderful recognition and distinction with theaters such as Radio City Music Hall in New York, the Fox Theatre in Atlanta and Heineken Music Hall in Amsterdam, Netherlands. This ranking helps the Morris attract new business and supports continued business from promoters, agents and artists throughout the country who, in turn, bring popular touring acts to our community.

As you can see, the Morris plays an important role as downtown continues to develop as the dominant entertainment district in the region. People come downtown for theater, music, museums, and good food. The Morris Performing Arts Center and the Palais Royale renovations have been a catalyst for further development downtown, giving visitors more reason to return to South Bend again and again.

Recently I joined a few business associates for lunch in what I feel is the City's hidden secret, the Morris Bistro, a 100-seat restaurant wine bar located in the Morris' lower level. The atmosphere was perfect for our business lunch meeting and I observed numerous other guests both alone and in groups enjoying this quiet spot. The Morris Bistro offers diners a chance to watch the Chef prepare each individual order and offers reasonably priced lunches. I highly recommend their luncheon menu and their gourmet paninis. Better still, since the Morris is within walking distance of downtown businesses, you can top off your meal with a brisk walk to and from lunch!

By mid-year, the Morris anticipates offering ticket buyers greater ease in buying tickets by establishing several external ticket outlets venturing into Elkhart County and Niles, Michigan. I also hear from staff at the Morris that in just a few months they anticipate forging a unique relationship with radio stations and area retail stores to sell tickets during their live onsite remotes.

The Morris in 2006 intends to continue to bring to our community a wide range of diverse national touring acts including family and cultural entertainment, blues, comedians, dance and rock. The Morris' outdoor summer concert series, Fridays by the Fountain, brought to our community in partnership with Sunny 101.5 and the South Bend Tribune, will celebrate its sixth season this summer. If you would like further information on the Morris, the Palais, or the Bistro, visit their website at www.MorrisCenter.org.

I'm very proud to say that the Morris is one of our brightest shining stars in downtown and their presence continues to offer our community quality entertainment at reasonable prices. You no longer need to drive 2+ hours to find great top name entertainment; South Bend is truly a great place to live, work, and PLAY!

Mayor Steve

THIS MONTH...

Mayor's Letter
2nd Annual Halina Poetry Prize Contest Roundabouts!
New City Website Coming Soon!
Homeless Animals Need Your Help!
2005 Progress Report Available Online
UPDATE - State of the City Address
Special Insert: Curb & Sidewalk Program



The City of South Bend is pleased to announce the second annual Halina Poetry Prize for high school students, designed to showcase area students' literary talent and to honor South Bend's Sister City, Czestochowa, Poland.

The Halina Poetry Prize was named in honor of Czestochowa poet Halina Poswiatowska. She wrote poetry from a young age and published three volumes before her untimely death in 1967. Her poetry is still highly regarded in Poland.

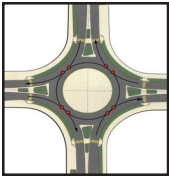
The City invites all South Bend students in grades 9-12 to submit their work for consideration. The winner will receive \$200 and four Honorable Mention Award winners will receive \$50 each. The top 40 poems will also be included in the Halina Poetry Prize Chapbook, a publication of the Contest.

Contest information is available from South Bend high school English departments, or by calling the Mayor's Office at 235-9261.

Coming Soon to the Morris...

- ♦ Violinist Chen Xi performing with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra
- ♦ Helikon Opera performing "De Fledermaus"
- ♦ Chris Brubeck: All that Jazz
- ♦ Dora the Explorer: "Dora's Pirate Adventure"
- ♦ Will Rogers Follies
- ♦ Rent
- ♦ Michael W. Smith
- ♦ Loretta Lynn
- ♦ The Producers
- ♦ Stomp

Visit the City of South Bend online at www.ci.south-bend.in.us



Coming Soon - Roundabouts!

The City of South Bend is launching an exciting project this construction season to improve traffic flow and safety along north Portage Avenue. Roundabouts will be constructed at Portage's intersections with Lathrop St. and Ribourde Dr. The roundabout at Lathrop will include the Highland Cemetery entrance, and Boland Dr. will be realigned to intersect at the Ribourde roundabout.

Important facts:

- Each roundabout will be a circular 4-way intersection with a landscaped island in the center.
- Traffic will flow one way in a counter-clockwise direction around the center island.
- Yield signs control each entrance into the roundabouts.
- Drivers inside the roundabout have the right-of-way over any vehicle entering the roundabout.
- All turns drivers make when entering and exiting a roundabout are right turns.

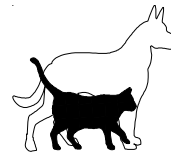
Modern roundabouts maximize safety and minimize traffic delay, while being attractive, cost-effective focal points in neighborhoods.

- Up to 90% reduction in fatalities
- 75% fewer conflict points than a traditional 4-way intersection
- Designed to keep speeds low.
- No opportunity for drivers to run a stop sign or traffic light.
- Fewer delays because drivers do not have to stop to enter the intersection.
- Less expensive because they do not require electricity to operate and maintain traffic signals.
- Landscaped island is aesthetic addition to neighborhoods.

South Bend already has one roundabout, on Fellows St. at Dean Johnson Blvd., at Ivy Tech. In the eight years it has been in existence, no accidents have been reported at that intersection. Other local agencies have followed South Bend's lead - two roundabouts are under construction on Lincolnway West south of the airport, and a third will be built on Douglas at Ivy Rd.

The City is also investing in streetscape improvements on Portage that extend from Lathrop St. to the Toll Road bridge just south of Cleveland Road to further enhance the Portage Avenue Corridor. A bikeway/walkway will be installed on the west side of Portage between the two roundabouts and from Boland Drive to the bridge over the Toll Road. New decorative lighting will be installed on the west side of Portage, and utility poles on the east side will be upgraded and rewired. A signalized intersection will also be added at Portage Avenue and Portage Way, including the entrances to Indian Springs Apartments and Portage Manor.

Federal dollars from the Indiana Department of Transportation will cover 80% of the total project cost of \$4.1 million, with a 20% local contribution. Work on the roundabouts is expected begin in June, and is projected to be completed in mid-2007.



Homeless Animals Need Your Help!

Because of the high volume of animals brought to the shelter during cold months, South Bend Animal Control is in need of pet supplies, including towels, blankets, cleaner, gauze and medical supplies, cat litter, pet dishes, pet food, and dish and laundry detergents. Monetary donations are always welcome. Donations to SBACC are tax deductible and go directly toward the medical care of South Bend's homeless animals. For more information, please call South Bend Animal Control at 235-9303.

2005 Progress Report Available Online!

The 2005 City of South Bend Progress Report is available online at www.ci.south-bend.in.us. This important report highlights the accomplishments of our dedicated City employees, elected officials, and volunteer Boards, Commissions, and Committees. We are working diligently to provide the best services and programs to our residents and visitors!

STATE OF THE CITY UPDATE

The Mayor's State of the City address to the community and the Common Council, on Monday, February 13, 2006, will begin at 6:00 p.m., instead of 7:00, as originally announced. The address will be given in the Atrium of the new Studebaker National Museum at 120 S. Chapin St. Everyone is welcome! The Mayor will report on the great work that is being done in South Bend and plans for the coming year. For more information, please call the Mayor's Office at 235-9261 or visit www.ci.south-bend.in.us.

click. here. soon...

www.SouthBendIN.gov

City

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Government at Your Fingertips!

Live on February 14, 2006!



SI USTED NO ENTIENDE INGLÉS Y NECESITA AYUDA PARA TRADUCIR ESTE DOCUMENTO, O SI TIENE ALGUNA PREGUNTA, POR FAVOR LLAME AL SR. FEDERICO THON (ASISTENTE DEL ALCALDE) AL TELÉFONO (574) 235-5858 X 1000.

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